

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
July 19, 2016



ANDERSON FAMILY PRESERVES THEIR FARM, AND A WAY OF LIFE, IN PORTLAND

PORTLAND - Perched on a high bank above a stretch of the Connecticut River where Native Americans grew crops 1,000 years ago, what is now known as Anderson Farm contains some of the richest and most fertile soils in the state.

And from her house overlooking 33 acres of hayfields that sweep down to the very edge of the water, Lucille Anderson says the dark, highly-productive soil that has sustained the family for three generations was the ultimate reason they decided to forever protect it for agricultural use under the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

"Houses can live anywhere," Anderson said at the kitchen table of her simple house, among a small cluster of family homes abutting the farm. "But here, you put in a seed and it pops right up. This preservation means that it will always stay that way."

Anderson's grandson, Joe Mullen, calls the property "a developer's dream" because of its open, rolling fields, 1,500 feet of river frontage, and nearby city water and sewer lines.

"A developer could just tie right in to the lines and put up a million little houses," said Mullen, a professional arborist who also lives next to the farm and harvests its hay to sell and to feed his small herd of beef cows, sheep and goats. "It would break my heart to see houses here.

You just can't ask for a better spot."

In addition to the 33 acres preserved on Strong's Avenue, all of which is prime and statewide important farmland soil, the Anderson's gifted the state another 54 acres on Meadow Road (Route 17A) that is used for hay and corn.

All but about five of those acres on that parcel, known as "The Meadows," are prime and statewide important soils, a classification that applies to less than 30 percent of land statewide.

"Protecting prime farmland along the Connecticut River has multiple benefits consistent with the goals of the Farmland Preservation Program," Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said. "I am pleased to be able to work with the Anderson family to ensure their legacy endures in perpetuity."

Lucille Anderson's late husband Charles first applied to the Farmland Preservation Program in 1983, but competition for limited funding at the time led to the project never being completed.

Lucille and her daughter Nancy were instrumental in seeing the preservation through to its closing last week. Her son John wrote the following historical summary of the farm, also known as Blague Ridge Farm, in recognition of the preservation agreement:

(Continued on Page 3)

LANCASTER, PA., LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

	LOW	HIGH
SLAUGHTER COWS Avg. Dressing		
breakers 75-80% lean	71.00	76.00
boners 80-85% lean	71.00	76.00
lean 88-90% lean	64.50	70.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	124.00	128.50
Choice 2-3	120.00	124.00
Sel 1-2	115.00	120.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEIN STEERS		
Ch 2-3	109.00	115.00
Sel 1-2	100.00	108.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
Hi Ch/Prime 3-4	no test	
Ch 2-3	no test	
Select 1-2	no test	
CALVES - Graded bull		
No 1 114-128 lbs	117.00	127.00
No 1 90-112 lbs	130.00	145.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Woolled & Shorn		
Markets: Choice and Prime 2-3		
40-50 lbs	250.00	255.00
70-80 lbs	205.00	225.00
90-110 lbs	205.00	205.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3		
80-120 lbs	102.00	105.00
120-160 lbs	80.00	95.00
160-200 lbs	72.00	100.00
BUCKS		
160-200 lbs	87.00	110.00
200-300 lbs	52.00	92.00
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.		
40-60 lbs	190.00	200.00
60-80 lbs	205.00	220.00
80-100 lbs	235.00	255.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES:		
Select 1, by head, est.		
80-130 lbs	235.00	265.00
130-180 lbs	270.00	285.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1		
150-250 lbs	375.00	380.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

Per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	55.00	59.00
	300-350 lbs	50.00	56.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	50.00	55.00
	300-400 lbs	32.00	36.50
	400-500 lbs	28.00	36.00
	600-750 lbs	38.50	41.50
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	34.00	39.00
	500-800 lbs	38.00	40.50
Boars	200-300 lbs	30.00	38.00
	400-800 lbs	12.50	13.00

N. HOLLAND, PA. FEEDER PIGS

Sold by the cwt.

US 1-2	12-29 lbs	192.00	222.00
	36-47 lbs	124.00	134.00
	50-56 lbs	114.00	128.00
	62-69 lbs	97.00	108.00
	73-75 lbs	90.00	101.00
	80-89 lbs	84.00	110.00
	101-144 lbs	82.00	100.00
US 2-3	13-15 lbs	162.00	170.00
	20-25 lbs	140.00	148.00
	35 lbs	140.00	140.00

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 12-4OZ	16.00	16.50
ALFALFA SPROUTS, 5 LBS	14.00	14.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 10 LBS	5.00	6.00
BEAN SPROUTS, 12-12 OZ	12.00	15.00
BEANS, GRN, MACH PK, BU	40.00	40.00
BEANS, WAX, BU	40.00	40.00
BEETS, RED, LOOSE, 25 LBS	12.00	12.00
BLUEBERRIES, PULP, 12-1PT	30.00	36.00
BLUEBERRIES, CLAM, 12-1PT	24.00	26.00
CORN, SWEET, BI-COLR, 5 DOZ	18.00	24.00
CORN, SWEET, BI-COLR, EACH	.50	.50
CUKES, 1-1/9	25.00	25.00
CUKES, PER LB	1.50	1.50
CUKES, PICKLERS, 1-1/9	16.00	16.00
CUKES, PICKLERS, PER LB	1.50	1.50
FIDDLEHEADS, 10 LBS	45.00	50.00
GARLIC SCAPIES, 5OZ BAG	3.00	3.00
KALE, CTN, 12	12.00	13.00
KALE, LACINATO, CTN, 12	18.00	18.00
LETTUCE, BSTN/GRN/RD, 12 CT	8.00	8.00
LETTUCE, BSTN/GRN/RD, 24 CT	20.00	20.00
LETTUCE, ROMAINE, 12	8.00	8.00
LETTUCE, ROMAINE, 24	20.00	20.00
PEAS, ENGLISH, BU	75.00	75.00
PEACHES, 2-3/4", 25 LBS	40.00	40.00
PEACHES, 2-1/2", 25 LBS	35.00	35.00
PEACHES, 2-1/4", 25 LBS	25.00	25.00
PEPPERS, GRN BELL, 1-1/9	20.00	20.00
PEPPERS, LONG HOT, 1-1/9	25.00	25.00
RADISHES, 24 LBS	12.00	12.00
RASPBERRIES, 18-1/2 PT	36.00	36.00
RHUBARB, 20 LBS	35.00	35.00
SQUASH, YELLOW, 1/2 BU	5.00	18.00
SQUASH, GREEN, 1/2 BU	12.00	18.00
SQUASH, GRN/YLLW, PER LB	1.10	1.10
SQUASH, GREY, 1/2 BU	18.00	18.00
SQUASH, ZUCH, SM, 1/2 BU	4.00	13.00
SWISS CHARD, RNBOW, BNCH	3.00	3.00
TOMATO, GHSE, 20 LBS	42.00	42.00
TOMS, CHERRY, GHSE, 8-10 OZ	24.00	26.00
TOMS, HEIRLM, GHSE, M-L, 10 LB	24.00	25.00
TOMS, ONVINE, GHSE, 11 LBS	11.00	12.00
TOMS, VINERIPE GHSE, 25 LBS	15.00	15.00

SHIPPED IN

CABBAGE, SAVOY, NJ, 1-3/4 BU	15.00	16.00
CHOY SUM, CA, 30 LBS	35.00	40.00
COLLARDS, NJ, 12	12.00	13.00
CHRY, DKRED, ORG, WA, 18LB, 11	60.00	60.00
DAIKON, NJ, 1-1/9, 12	25.00	26.00
DANDELION, NJ, 12 BNCH	16.00	16.00
EGGPLANT, GA, 1-1/9, MED	14.00	16.00
ENDIVE, NJ, 1.3 BU, 16	13.00	15.00
ESCAROLE, NJ, 1.3 BU, 16	13.00	15.00
GARLIC, ELPHNT, JBO, CA, 10LB	42.00	42.00
GRAPES, CA, XL, SDLS, #1, 18LB	33.00	35.00
LEEKs, CA, 12 BUNCHES/CTN	20.00	24.00
MUSHRM, ENOKI, PA, 12- 5OZ	18.00	19.00
MUSHRM, OYSTER, PA, 5 LBS	11.00	11.00
MUSHRM, SHITAKE, PA, 3LBS	11.00	15.00
NECTRINE, YLW, CA, 25LB, 48-50	24.00	24.00
PEPPER, CUBANELLE, GA, 1-1/9	16.00	20.00
PLUMS, RED, CA, 28 LBS, 30-35	30.00	35.00
SPINACH, NJ, 24 BNCH/CRT	18.00	18.00
WATERCRESS, AL, BUNCH, 24	17.00	20.00
WATERMELON, GA, 10-14LB, EA	3.00	4.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT - July 18, 2016

	LOW	HIGH
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	55.00	60.00
61-75 lbs.	92.50	95.00
76-90 lbs.	102.50	105.00
91-105 lbs.	107.50	110.00
106 lbs. & up	112.50	117.50
Farm Calves	120.00	160.00
Starter Calves	45.00	50.00
Veal Calves	90.00	150.00
Open Heifers	117.50	140.00
Beef Heifers	83.00	112.00
Feeder Steers	65.00	85.00
Beef Steers	107.00	112.50
Stock Bulls	145.00	155.00
Beef Bulls	81.00	103.00
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs each	1@	65.00
Sheep each	70.00	100.00
Lambs each	75.00	280.00
Goats each	100.00	250.00
Kid Goats each	60.00	125.00
Canners	up to	75.00
Cutters	76.00	79.00
Utility Grade Cows	80.00	83.00
Rabbits each	4.00	22.50
Chickens each	5.00	30.00
Ducks each	5.00	22.50

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	.83	1.02
LARGE	.77	.91
MEDIUM	.46	.59

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.26	1.39
LARGE	1.15	1.29
MEDIUM	.57	.68
SMALL	.47	.58

USDA ORGANIC WHOLESALE

Per unit, in dollars.

CUKES, GA 1/2 BU	35.00	35.00
KALE, CTN, GA, 12	21.00	21.00
SQSH, ZCH, GA, 1/2 BU	35.00	35.00
SQSH, YELL, GA, 3/4BU	35.00	35.00
ARUGULA, CA, 1 LB	13.00	13.00
BEETS, CA, 25 LBS	36.00	36.00
CARROTS, CA, 24-2LB	48.00	48.00
CARROTS, CA, 24/CTN	38.00	38.00
MESCULIN MIX, CA, 3LB	8.00	9.00
BLUBRRY, NJ, 12-6OZ	21.00	21.00
CHERRY, WA, 18LB, 11	60.00	60.00
PEACH, CA, 2LYR, 48-50	36.00	36.00
PLUMS, CA, 28LB, 40-50	32.00	32.00
RASP, CA, 12-6OZ, LG	30.00	30.00
SPINACH, CA, 4LB	9.50	11.00

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

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4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

67-R. 99 Dart Hill Road, South Windsor. 5.5 acres, Rural Residential. Fully approved building lot with sewer available, well required. Ideal for horses, ambitious gardener, agricultural or home business. 800 foot driveway. Creative owner financing available. \$248,000.00. Annette Griffin, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services N.E. Properties. 860-604-7845.

73-R. For Sale: Mulch hay in 500 lb round bales. Asking \$19.00 per bale. Call Mike Sr. – 860-528-4660.

76-R. 8 yearling Baldy steers. 8 open yearling Baldy heifers. 4 bred Baldy heifers due August. 860-485-5720.

77-R. Gleason 1 yard soil, flat and pot filler, feed and return elevator. Probably the most rugged greenhouse/nursery equipment made. Easy adjustments. Very good condition. Come see. Looking for offers. Takagi Jr. propane water heater, ignites and shuts off on water flow. New in box. Stainless steel exhaust pipe included. Both \$300.00. 48" slat fin exhaust fan. \$200.00. Wheeler Farm, Portland, CT. 860-342-2374.

78-R. Lynn Blackmer, Nationwide Farm Master Certified Agent, Woodstock, CT. Farm, commercial, life insurance, and more. Cell: 860-377-8947 to see how Nationwide compares.

79. Kinkelder 3 PtH. Orchard Mist sprayer. \$500.00. Manual SS Bottler. \$200.00. Glass quart bottles. \$1.00 each. 860-564-3615.

80-R. Italian (Checchi & Magli) potato/bulb diggers, cultivator topdressers, carousel transplanters, finger planters at Griffin Farm Equipment. 860-508-2426 or 800-832-0445 griffin-farm@aol.com

81-R. Tew produce wash line, 5 foot table, 24" wash, grade and pack. Must sell. Make a reasonable offer. 203-521-3141 or 860-619-8030 leave message or mortensen23@aol.com

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tetreault Realty (860) 644-5667.

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"Deemed among the most fertile in the State, this land has been owned and farmed by three generations of Andersons for over a century.

The recorded agrarian history of this land originates in the 1700s, when Colonel Blague received a land grant from the King of England, and turned to agricultural purposes the gently rolling hillsides and fields that extended through the flood plain of what the Native Americans called Quinetucket, The Great River.

The Anderson stewardship began with Arvid Anderson, who acquired the land in the early 1900s. Arvid worked in partnership with his son Charles to build Blague Dairy.

The richness of the land supported a 60-head herd of Holsteins, an annual crop of broadleaf tobacco and seven children who contributed to the work force of the once vital community of farm families in Portland.

Thanks to the Anderson family and to Connecticut's Farmland Preservation Program, this land will remain as farmland in perpetuity.

A testament to the bounty of the soil in a country that has fed the world. And to the integrity and work ethic of the family farm, that from the beginning of this nation, has been an integral part of the sinew and soul of the American legacy."

The two Anderson farms are surrounded by other significant agricultural and open-space properties. The 33-acre riverside parcel is adjacent to the former Goodrich farm, now home to the Kogut Florist and Nurseryman company, that was preserved by the state in 1984.

It also abuts open space property owned by the town of Portland that connects to Brownstone Quarry.

"The Meadows" parcel is adjacent to The Portland Farmers Fish and Game Club, and contains a segment of Carr Brook, which converges with the Connecticut River via a bridge along Route 17A.

The state has preserved a total of about 42,000 acres of farmland since the program was created in 1978, including more than 1,500 acres in Middlesex County.

The program allows farmers to convey their property's development rights to the state, but still own and work the land and contribute to the local tax base.

Owners also may convey their land to others, but a permanent deed restriction assures the property will always remain available for agricultural production.

Lucille Anderson said the family has no plans to make any substantial changes to the farm, which she credits with instilling deep and traditional values in her seven children and 15 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

"This is where they learn what life is about and how to work hard and respect others," she said. "And it's really been very helpful to all of them."



Above: A photo of Lucille Anderson's late husband Charles, holding granddaughter Kristen, is among a collection of farm and family photos in the Anderson kitchen.

Above right: A barn at the farm bears a sign with the farm's former name.

Right: Lucille Anderson's grandson Joe Mullen surveys the Connecticut River from the edge of the farm's hayfields.

Page 1: A view of the 33-acre farm showing the Connecticut River at rear.



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